



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

May 18, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of the State of New York
NYS State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

We write to you with urgency to call for the immediate reopening, full staffing, and modernization of the former New York State Police Trooper station located along the Southern State Parkway in Valley Stream.

A series of recent fatal and serious crashes on this heavily traveled roadway has brought renewed and warranted attention to a growing public safety gap. These incidents include a devastating multi-vehicle collision that claimed two lives and left several others injured, as well as another major crash involving an overturned vehicle and an arrest for driving while intoxicated. Both occurred in close proximity to the former Trooper station, a facility that for nearly four decades served as a critical public safety asset prior to its closure on May 1, 2018.

This effort is about supporting the New York State Police and local residents. Our State Troopers continue to do their job under difficult conditions; they should not have to do it without the infrastructure and presence this corridor demands.

The closure of this station removed a proven and visible deterrent to reckless and dangerous driving behavior along one of Long Island's busiest corridors. The closure of the Trooper Station also resulted in challenges to rapid, on-site response when seconds matter most. The consequences are no longer hypothetical. They are occurring now, with tragic results.

Reestablishing a permanent and visible State Police presence at this location is a necessary and practical step to enhance safety, enforcement and deterrence, improve response times, and restore confidence for the thousands of motorists who travel along the Southern State Parkway each day.

Accordingly, we strongly urge your administration to immediately take steps to reopen and re-activate the State Police Trooper station in Valley Stream, and to provide the necessary staffing increases to ensure the facility is fully operational with additional Troopers. We further request commitment to a comprehensive modernization plan, including either a full renovation of the existing station or the construction of a new, state-of-the-art facility.

This is a targeted action that will have a direct and meaningful impact on public safety. It supports our law enforcement professionals, strengthens roadway safety, and helps prevent further loss of life.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and stand ready to work with your administration to move this effort forward without delay.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
State Senator, District 9



Ed Ra
Assembly Minority Leader